

Why would we push back and go backwards, instead of moving forward into the future?

YOU CAN'T FOOL ALL THE PEOPLE ALL THE TIME

(Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. As the saying goes, "You can fool all of the people some of the time and some of the people all of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time."

A year into investigations regarding the IRS improperly targeting applications submitted by conservative groups, the IRS claimed to have lost Lois Lerner's emails to or from outside agencies or groups for a period of more than 2 years as a result of a computer crash—not just her computer, but five others as well.

IRS Commissioner John Koskinen has told us that the hard drives on her computer and the others could not be restored and had been recycled.

As a former defense attorney, if a client told me this story, I would say: You can tell the judge and the jury whatever you want, but you are not fooling anybody, and if that is your story, you are going to jail.

MIGRANT CHILDREN

(Mr. VARGAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank the religious and faith-based communities in our Nation that have come forward to demand that we treat the children coming to our country with love and respect and not deny them their due process rights.

Here are some of the words of the faith-based community themselves. This is from the Evangelical Immigration Table, which includes the National Association of Evangelicals, the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, and many, many more.

"The antitrafficking law is working according to its design," the religious leaders said. "It should not be changed to address the current temporary situation."

We hear from Rabbi Asher Knight of Temple Emanu-El in Dallas. "The question for us is: How do we want to be remembered, as yelling and screaming to go back or as using the teachings of our traditions to have compassion and love and grace for the lives of God's children?"

Lastly, Pope Francis writes, "A change of attitude towards migrants and refugees is needed on the part of everyone."

I hope to have that. I thank President Bush for signing the law and standing by it in this hysterical moment.

THE IRS' DANGEROUS DOUBLE STANDARD

(Mr. DAINES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAINES. Madam Speaker, imagine telling the IRS you "just lost" your paperwork; or "sorry, I accidentally deleted my tax forms, guess I won't be getting those to you."

How do you think the IRS would respond? Not well. The IRS would find your actions "inexcusable," paid back with a fine or criminal punishment, but when the IRS asks the same of us, we are expected to let them off the hook.

Losing 2 years' worth of emails is not only unlikely, but it is unacceptable. The IRS would not accept that excuse from the people of Montana, and Montanans will not accept that excuse from the IRS.

This double standard is abusive. It is irresponsible. The IRS holds a great deal of power over the individual lives of the American people, and the requirements they ask of us, we are asking of them.

As representatives of the people the IRS is hurting, the House will hold the IRS to the standards that they hold the rest of America.

ISRAEL-PALESTINE CONFLICT

(Mr. NOLAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NOLAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of an immediate cease-fire and cessation of hostilities between Israel and the Palestinians of Gaza, in order to resume negotiations and create a more lasting peace and security for all parties, to end this tragic conflict.

Madam Speaker, we must do all that we can to help these parties come to terms that put the Palestinians on a path to fulfilling their legitimate aspirations of independence, while with the greatest certainty that ensures the survival and the security of Israel.

I commend and strongly urge President Obama and Secretary Kerry to continue in their bold efforts in ending this war. I offer them my full support, and I ask my colleagues to do the same, so that Israel and Palestine may someday soon live side by side in peace with one another.

□ 1230

THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE HAS A MAJOR CREDIBILITY PROBLEM

(Mr. DESANTIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DESANTIS. Madam Speaker, the Internal Revenue Service has a major credibility problem. Last month, Internal Revenue Service Commissioner

John Koskinen told Congress under oath that the agency had confirmed that backup tapes storing Lois Lerner's emails were destroyed.

Now we learn from IRS officials that such tapes may, in fact, exist. Last week, the IRS filed a declaration in Federal Court stating that Lois Lerner's hard drive was destroyed and the data contained on the hard drive was unrecoverable, yet testimony provided to the House Ways and Means Committee by IRS IT professionals suggests that the hard drive was merely scratched and the data was, in fact, recoverable.

Of course, the IRS has identified roughly 80 individuals of interest in the investigation, and yet now they tell us that as many as 19 of them may have suffered Lois Lerner-style hard drive crashes.

Madam Speaker, the troubling part about this is the American citizen would never be able to get away with these types of explanations. It is intolerable to have one set of rules for the IRS and one set of rules for the rest of us.

CANCEL THE AUGUST RECESS TO DO THE PEOPLE'S WORK

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, creating opportunity for hardworking American families and reigniting the American Dream should be the top priority of this Congress, but instead, we are about to embark on a 1-month legislative recess as the House Republican leadership continues to block action on legislation to create jobs and to grow the middle class.

Legislation awaiting action in an up-or-down vote is piling up: legislation to raise the minimum wage; to renew emergency unemployment insurance; to pass comprehensive immigration reform; to rebuild our crumbling roads, bridges, and ports; enacting a manufacturing policy so that we can make things in America; and voting on paycheck fairness to ensure that women receive equal pay for equal work.

Passing all these policies would jump-start the middle class and expand opportunity for all Americans. But instead, instead of taking those up, we are about to leave town for a month of undeserved time off.

We should get to work on the work of the American people. They expect that from us, and they deserve nothing less.

SOME PEOPLE ARE MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS

(Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, as an American small businesses owner, I deliver to my accountants each and every year tremendous sums of information that is then